Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre

Intervention Aims

- To encourage learners to consider different STEM careers beyond what's already easily accessible to them.
- To showcase varied types of STEM subjects beyond those that young people might already know about.
- To inspire learners to pursue STEM subjects at H.E. at a key educational point (Year 12).
- To enable learners to develop knowledge and skills in Science in a new location.

Practitioner Voice

Intervention Rationale

Mark who studied a STEM subject at Newcastle University described how… **"**When I was a physics student at Millom School, I was invited on a nuclear-based trip. Afterwards I was put in the extra effort to revise for my science subjects. The trip always sticks in my mind, so I know how influential this type of experience can be**"**.

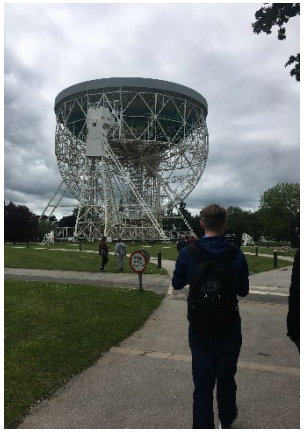
What was your memorable moment with a learner?

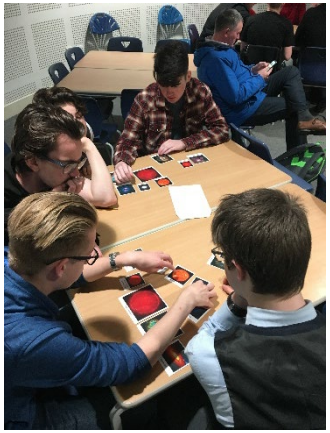
"Working with a group of learners during the pulsars workshop, assisting in the calculations and understanding of the topic**"**.

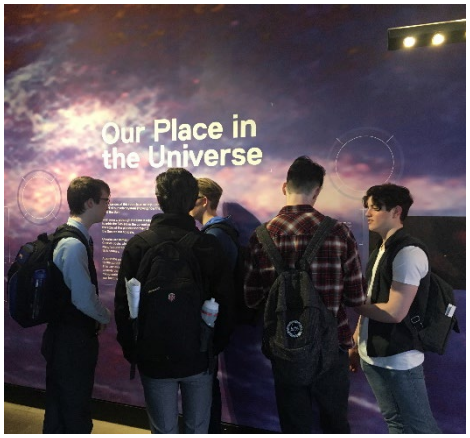
Can you think of stand out conversations you had with a learner?

"Chatting with a learner about the number of undergraduate courses on offer in science, mainly focusing on chemistry and physics. Also listening to a group learners talking about the exhibits on display and explaining what they were to each other**"**.

Mark thought the trip was particularly successful in meeting its aims because it was closely linked to what the learners were studying and the A-level syllabus. Additionally, the focus on astrophysics and the new learning environment at Jodrell Bank meant the learners were both engaged as well as challenged by the workshops to learn new things. If he was to do the trip again he would invite younger learners so the older learners could inspire them to study Science at GCSE and A Level, whilst ensuring the workshops were targeted at the appropriate age groups.







How likely are you to consider a career in science? (13 learners)	Before	After
Unsure	4	1
Likely	6	8
Very Likely	3	4

4	7	8	8	12
Offered An Opinion	Asked A Question	Met New People	Tried A New Skill	Visited A New Location

We asked participants...

‘What made you sign up to this experience?’

- Learning more about radio-telescopy.
- Exhibitions and workshops expanding knowledge of physics.
- Physics.
- Expanding my knowledge of physics.
- Interested to learn new knowledge.
- Everything – learning new things for next year.
- Learning about astrophysics and space
- Interesting opportunity.
- Curiosity.
- The knowledge I learn could help me for next year doing Physics.
- I’m excited to learn about astrophysics.
- It could help me during the 2nd year of the course.
- Potentially studying astrophysics next year.

‘How can HF support you further? What would you like to see us offer?’

- A scholarship/bursary fund for Cumbrians going to Uni.
- Do the same as well as conveying information about the careers possible with what was taught.
- More physics and maths trips.
- Offer more events like this in other subjects, Maths/physics/engineering.
- Offer more of the same. I would definitely come to the physics/science based trips.

‘Has the experience lived up to expectations?’

The resounding answer was **YES** and here’s why…

I heard more about space exploration and radio telescopes.

I learnt a lot about the various topics covered in the exhibitions and workshops.

I learnt a lot about space.

I learnt about what Jodrell Bank is and found it enjoyable.

I’ve learnt a lot more than I thought therefore exceeding my expectations.

I enjoyed exploring the facility and learning about what they do there.

I learnt a lot. I was very impressed with the workshops.

I Learnt a lot more about space than I expected..

I enjoyed the trip as much as I thought I would. I enjoyed learning about astrophysics and the telescope.

I learnt more about space and the solar system.

As part of this project we trialled using a new ‘pre’ and ‘post’ survey with learners. This trial has helped shape how we tailor our data collection tools to our target cohort.